Appl. No. 09/909,025
Reply to Office Action of May 2, 2006

Docket No. EMC-011PUS

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Claims 1-46 (Canceled)

47. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a data storage pool, comprising:

providing information for a plurality of storage resources in response to a user query;

assigning at least one storage property to selected ones of the plurality of storage resources in response to user instructions to define the data storage pool;

receiving a logical expression to identify respective ones of the storage resources that are available for a requested store operation based upon the storage properties assigned to the selected ones of the storage resources; [[and]]

allocating selected ones of the identified storage resources for the requested store operation; and

receiving, prior to the step of allocating selected ones of the identified storage resources, a new storage property for the logical expression if a desired storage property is not present in the assigned storage properties.

48. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein the logical expression includes at least one logical operator and at least two storage properties.

49. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 48, wherein the logical expression includes an amount of storage needed for the requested store operation.

50. (Canceled)

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1   51. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, further including assigning a
2   particular one of the at least one storage properties to a particular type of storage resource.
3
4   52. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein the plurality of storage
5   resources includes logical volumes.
6
7   53. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, further including receiving a user
8   instruction to identify a storage resource as hand-off storage.
9
10   54. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein the user query is
11   generated by a storage administrator.
12
13   55. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein the logical expression is
14   generated by a database administrator.
15
16   56. (Currently Amended) An article, comprising:
17   a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that when executed by a machine
18   result in the following:
19   providing information for a plurality of storage resources in response to a user query;
20   assigning at least one storage property to selected ones of the plurality of storage resources
21   in response to user instructions to define the data storage pool;
22   receiving a logical expression to identify respective ones of the storage resources that are
23   available for a requested store operation based upon the storage properties assigned to the selected
24   ones of the storage resources; [[and]]
25   allocating selected ones of the identified storage resources for the requested store
26   operation; and
27   receiving, prior to the step of allocating selected ones of the identified storage resources, a
28   new storage property for the logical expression if a desired storage property is not present in the
29   assigned storage properties

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1 57. (Previously presented) The article according to claim 56, wherein the logical expression

2 includes at least one logical operator and at least two storage properties.

3

4 58. (Previously presented) The article according to claim 57, wherein the logical expression

5 includes an amount of storage needed for the requested store operation.

6

7 59. (Previously presented) The article according to claim 57, further instructions to include

8 assigning a particular one of the at least one storage properties to a particular type of storage

9 resource.

10

11 60. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

12   a processor; and

13   a memory coupled to the processor, the memory including instructions that when executed

14 result in the following:

15   providing information for a plurality of storage resources in response to a user query;

16   assigning at least one storage property to selected ones of the plurality of storage resources

17 in response to user instructions to define the data storage pool;

18   receiving a logical expression to identify respective ones of the storage resources that are

19 available for a requested store operation based upon the storage properties assigned to the selected

20 ones of the storage resources; [[and]]

21   allocating selected ones of the identified storage resources for the requested store

22 operation; and

23   receiving, prior to the step of allocating selected ones of the identified storage resources, a

24 new storage property for the logical expression if a desired storage property is not present in the

25 assigned storage properties.

26

27 61. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 60, wherein the logical expression

28 includes at least one logical operator and at least two storage properties.

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1   62. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 60, wherein the logical expression

2   includes an amount of storage needed for the requested store operation.

3

4   63. (Previously Amended) The system according to claim 60, further including instructions to

5   assign a particular one of the at least one storage properties to a particular type of storage

6   resource.

7

8   64. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 47, further including determining

9   which ones of the identified storage resources have preferred characteristics.

10

11   65. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 64, wherein the preferred

12   characteristics include storage resources having multiple disk spindles.

13

14   66. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein the logical expression

15   includes a storage property not assigned to any of the storage resources, and further including:

16   receiving an identification of a first one of the plurality of storage resources having the

17   unassigned storage property; and

18   allocating the first one of the storage resources based upon the logical expression.